



Brownfields 2008 Grant Fact Sheet

Cuyahoga County, OH

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. On January 11, 2002, President George W. Bush signed into law the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through four competitive grant programs: assessment grants, revolving loan fund grants, cleanup grants, and job training grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Community Description

Cuyahoga County was selected to receive two brownfields assessment grants and a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. Located in northern Ohio, Cuyahoga County (population 1,314,241) is the largest county in the state and includes a federally designated Empowerment Zone in Cleveland's east side. During the late 19th Century, hundreds of thousands of people came to the county to work in Cleveland's industries, which included the Standard Oil Company. Since 2000, the county has experienced economic challenges and a significant population loss. More than 45,000 manufacturing jobs disappeared from the county between 2000 and 2006. The county's poverty rate is 14.8 percent, and 37 percent of residents are minorities. The closing of factories and manufacturing plants has left behind abandoned industrial properties and contaminated land.



Assessment Grants



\$200,000 for hazardous substances
\$200,000 for petroleum

EPA has selected Cuyahoga County for two brownfields assessment grants. Hazardous substances grant funds will be used to perform about four to six Phase I and three to five Phase II environmental site assessments throughout the county. About 10 percent of grant funds will be used to conduct assessments in East Cleveland. Grant funds also will be used to support community outreach activities. Petroleum grant funds will be used to conduct the same tasks at sites with potential petroleum contamination.

Revolving Loan Fund Grant



\$1,000,000 for hazardous substances

EPA has selected Cuyahoga County for a brownfields revolving loan fund grant. The grant will be used to capitalize a revolving loan fund from which Cuyahoga County will provide loans and subgrants to support cleanup activities for sites contaminated with hazardous substances. Grant funds also will be used to market and operate the revolving loan fund and support community involvement activities, especially in East Cleveland.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields web site at: www.epa.gov/brownfields.

EPA Region 5 Brownfields Team
312-886-7576

<http://www.epa.gov/R5Brownfields>

Grant Recipient: Cuyahoga County, OH
216-443-8064

There are an estimated 4,600 acres of brownfields in the county and about 10,000 to 25,000 vacant and abandoned properties in Cleveland alone. Assessment of brownfields is expected to clarify concerns about real or perceived environmental contamination and leverage funds for redevelopment. The county plans to redevelop brownfields cleaned up through the RLF grant with clean manufacturing facilities. The county also plans to reuse brownfields in East Cleveland as community gardens and greenspace.

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.